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REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's review of the specification, claims, and drawings. In light of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application. The amendments and remarks presented herein are fully supported by the application as originally filed. No new matter has been entered.

Status of the Claims:

Claims 60-117 are pending in the application. Claims 83 and 85 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-59 were previously canceled.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103:

The Examiner rejects Claims 60-62, 64-66, 69-76, 92, 95-98, 100-102, and 104-107 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tobin, Jr. '952 in view of Holt '539.

The Examiner rejects Claims 67, 68, 84, 103, and 108-117 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tobin, Jr. '952 in view of Holt '539 and, further, in view of Enomoto '166 or Mizuta et al '302.

The Examiner rejects Claims 63, 77-82, 89-91, 93, 94, and 99 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tobin, Jr. '952 in view of Holt '539 and, further, in view of Marhaucr '770.

The Examiner rejects Claims 86-88 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tobin, Jr. '952 in view of Hold '539 and, further, in view of Bauer et al. '864 or Kanazawa '367.

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Applicants respectfully traverse. Notwithstanding, Applicants have amended

Claims 60, 97, and 108, which now call for:

60. An automobile exterior sideview mirror system comprising:
an exterior sideview mirror assembly adapted for attachment to a side of an automobile;
said exterior sideview mirror assembly including a reflective element assembly;
said reflective element assembly including a first reflective element having unit magnification and a second reflective element having a curvature;
said first reflective element and said second reflective element supported at a support element and with a demarcation element between said first and second reflective elements, said first and second reflective elements abutting opposing sides of said demarcation element;
said second reflective element disposed at an outer, upper portion of said reflective element assembly when said reflective element assembly is included in said exterior sideview mirror assembly and when said exterior sideview mirror assembly is attached to the side of an automobile;
said second reflective element supported on said support element adjacent to and separate from said first reflective element;
~~a demarcation element between said first reflective element and said second reflective element; and~~
wherein the portion of said second reflective element abutting said demarcation element ~~abutting said first reflective element~~ has its front surface generally coplanar with the front surface of said first reflective element substantially along the entire length that said second reflective element abuts demarcation element.

97. An automobile exterior sideview mirror system comprising:
an exterior sideview mirror assembly adapted for attachment to a side of an automobile;

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said exterior sideview mirror assembly including a reflective element assembly;

said reflective element assembly including a first reflective element having unit magnification and a second reflective element having a curvature;

said second reflective element disposed at an outer, upper portion of said reflective element assembly when said reflective element assembly is included in said exterior sideview mirror assembly and when said exterior sideview mirror assembly is attached to the side of an automobile;

said second reflective element disposed adjacent to and separate from said first reflective element;

said first reflective element including a rearward field of view having a principal axis different from a principal axis of the rearward field of view of said second reflective element when mounted in said exterior sideview mirror assembly;

a demarcation element between said first reflective element and said second reflective element, said first and second reflective elements abutting opposing sides of said demarcation element; and

wherein the portion of said second reflective element ~~adjacent~~ abutting said demarcation element has its front surface generally coplanar with the front surface of said first reflective element substantially along the entire length that said second reflective element abuts said demarcation element.

108. An automobile exterior sideview mirror system comprising:

an exterior sideview mirror assembly adapted for attachment to a side of an automobile;

said exterior sideview mirror assembly including a reflective element assembly;

said reflective element assembly including a first reflective element having unit magnification and a second reflective element having a curvature;

an actuator operable to adjust the orientation of said reflective element assembly;

said second reflective element disposed at an outer, upper portion of said reflective element assembly when said reflective element assembly is included in said exterior sideview mirror

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assembly and when said exterior sideview mirror assembly is attached to the side of an automobile;

said second reflective element disposed adjacent to and separate from said first reflective element;

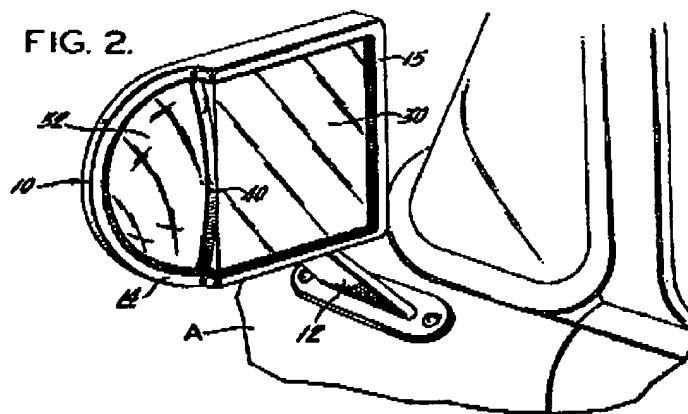
a demarcation element between said first reflective element and said second reflective element, said first and second reflective elements abutting opposing sides of said demarcation element; and

wherein the portion of said second reflective element ~~adjacent~~ abutting said demarcation element has its front surface generally coplanar with the front surface of said first reflective element substantially along the entire length that said second reflective element abuts said demarcation element.

Applicants respectfully urge that neither of Tobin, Jr. nor Holt disclose or suggest the claimed combination. With reference to Claims 60, for example, neither Tobin, Jr. nor Holt disclose or suggest an automobile exterior sideview mirror system that includes first and second reflective elements, which are supported at a support element so as to abut one another, with the first reflective element having a unit magnification and a second reflective element having a curvature, in combination with a demarcation element between the first and second reflective elements and wherein a portion of the second reflective element adjacent the demarcation element has its front surface generally coplanar with the front surface of the first reflective element substantially along the entire length that the second reflective element abuts the first reflective element. Nor would it be obvious to modify Tobin, Jr. to meet the claimed combination.

Indeed, such as clearly indicated in Figure 2, which is reproduced below, Tobin Jr. teaches away from the claimed combination.

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With respect to Claims 97 and 108, Applicants respectfully urge that neither Tobin, Jr. nor Holt disclose or suggest an exterior sideview mirror system that includes first and second reflective elements, with the first reflective element having a unit magnification and a second reflective element having a curvature, in combination with a demarcation element between the first and second reflective elements with the first and second reflective elements abutting opposing sides of the demarcation element and wherein a portion of the second reflective element abutting the demarcation element has its front surface generally coplanar with the front surface of the first reflective element substantially long the entire length that the second reflective element abuts the demarcation element.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully urge that Claims 60, 97, and 108 and their respective dependent claims, namely Claims 61-82, 84, 86-96, 98-107, and 109-117 are patentably distinguishable over Tobin, Jr. in view of Holt or any other reference of record. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that none of Enomoto, Mizuta et al., Marhauer,

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Bauer et al., or Kanazawa cure the deficiencies of Tobin, Jr. or Holt. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all the claims are now in condition for allowance and solicit a Notice to that effect.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 975-5506.

Respectfully submitted,


NIALL R. LYNAM ET AL.

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

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